# HISTORICAL SKETCH

AND

# BY-LAWS

OF

# Avondale Lodge

No. 921

A. F. & A. M.

CHICAGO, ILL.

The petition for permission to organize was signed by 29 brethren and by unanimous vote the following lodges gave their consent, to-wit: Ravenswood Lodge No. 777, Providence Lodge No. 711, Beacon Light Lodge No. 784, and Park Manor Lodge No. 899. Accordingly a dispensation was issued by Most Wor. Bro. Chester E. Allen, Grand Master, and on Oct. 7th, 1909, Avondale Lodge, U. D., was instituted in Masonic Hall, 3019 Belmont avenue.

At the subsequent meeting of the Grand Lodge in October, 1910, acting on a most favorable and highly complimentary report of its committee, the Lodge was granted a charter as Avondale Lodge No. 921, and on October 29th, 1910, was duly constituted with the following officers:

# OFFICERS

George E. Trebing, W. M.
David F. Shogren, S. W.
Harry W. Kuetemeyer, J. W.
John W. A. Bredfeldt, Treas.
Alfred V. Williams, Secy.
Walter M. Kroll, Chap.
August Hadam, S. D.
Charles Kraus, Jr., J. D.
Alfred H. Courtois, Jr., S. S.
Paul Scholz, J. S.
Joseph A. DuBois, Mar.
Frank M Jordan, Org.
William Estrup, Tyler.

# CHARTER MEMBERS

Arehart, Garry
Barkstrom, Chas. E.
Bjishkian, Joseph
Bowen, Charles R.
*Bredfeldt, J. W. A.
Breemersch, Jordan
Brown, Henry
Budruweit, Gustave
Carr, Allan John
Courtois, A. H., Jr.
‡Dada, Charles G.
†Degen, William F.
*Dietzel, Henry M.
†DuBois, Joseph A.
†Eichenberg, C. H.
Engel, John A.
Estrup, William
Fahs, Christ.
Falck, John H.
Forsberg, Charles J.
Freese, Bernard J.
Friedrich, Andrew J.
Gaggin, Frank N.
Gierke, William
Glover, Alfred
Grewe, Adolph
Hadam, August
Hallenborg, Emil
Haller, Otto G.
Hartman, Carl
Heasley, Daniel
*Hegborn, Benj. W.
Heidlauf, William
Heidlauf, William L.
†Herbeck, Wm. H.
Hirschberg, Eugene
Hoff, Edward A.
Hubka, Emil J.
Johnson, Edward J.
Johnson, Gustaf A.
Kacin, Benjamin J.
Kioebge, William
Klaproth, Chas. A.
Koons, John E.
*Kopeto, Alex. C.
Koy, Gustave E.
Kraus, Charles, Jr.
Kremer, Nicholas
Kroll, Walter M.
Kuechenberg, M. J.
Kuetemeyer, H. W.
Kurth, William E.
Lane, Marcus D.
†Larson, Charles A.
Lohman, George F.
Lugge, William L.
Maerker, Chas. J. L.
*Maurice, Louis
†McCormick, R. C.
Meier, T. August
Miller, Humboldt
Minster, Frank W.
Moberg, William E.
Nelson, Charles E.
†Neralich, Edward J.
Newell, John F.
Nicolai, John L.
Olsen, Charles F.
*Olsen, John M.
Olson, John A.
Olson, Oscar J.
Peterson John E.
†Pfeiffer, Henry

*Deceased.
†Dimitted.
‡Suspended.

†Richmond, Jas. F.
Rossiter, George A.
Russell, Phillip
†Saunders, John W.
Schafer, Emil B.
‡Schmidt, George
Schmidt, Thomas R.
Scholz, Adolph
Scholz, Paul
Schwinkendorff, H.
Servis, Oscar E.
Shogren, David F.
Snyder, Irvin L.
Stevenson, Russell A.
Strauss, Julius
Struebing, Fred M.
Sturm, John H.
†Sullivan, L. H.
*Sundbloom, John T.
*Swanson, Fred E. W.
Tegtmeyer, Henry A.
Trebing, George E.
†Von Werder, O.F.H.
Williams, Alfred V.
Winberg, Axel W.

*Deceased.
†Dimitted.
‡Suspended.

# BY-LAWS

## ARTICLE I

### MEETINGS

SECTION 1. The stated meetings of this lodge shall be held on the evenings of the first and third Thursdays of each month at 8 o'clock.

SEC. 2. The first stated meeting in December of each year shall be the Annual Meeting.

SEC. 3. Special meetings may be called in the discretion of the Master, but no business shall be transacted at such meeting unless by dispensation from the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and then only after due notice to all resident members.

SEC. 4. No proceedings other than the conferring of degrees shall be had at any meeting unless there be present seven members of this lodge.

## ARTICLE II

### OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The elective officers of this lodge shall be a Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer and Secretary.

SEC. 2. The appointive officers of this lodge shall be a Chaplain, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Senior Steward, Junior Steward, Marshal, Organist, Tyler and Assistant Tyler.

SEC. 3. The Master, Senior Warden and Junior Warden are the executive officers of the lodge and shall represent it in a corporate capacity.

SEC. 4. Any member of this lodge shall be eligible to any office except that of Master. But any member of this lodge having been elected and installed as a Warden is eligible to be Master.

## ARTICLE III

### Elections and Appointments

Section 1. The elective officers shall be separately chosen by ballot at the Annual Meeting in December of each year, and a majority of the whole number of votes cast shall be necessary for a choice.

Sec. 2. The officers named in Section 2, Article II, of these by-laws shall be appointed by the Master-elect, previous to installation.

Sec. 3. The officers thus elected and appointed shall be installed within 30 days into their respective offices and will serve until their successors are dully elected and installed.

Sec. 4. No brother not a member of this lodge shall be eligible to any office therein, except to the offices of Organist, Tyler and Assistant Tyler.

## ARTICLE IV

### Duties of Officers

Section 1. The Master, in addition to the power given him by Code No. 395A-J, and the duties required of him by Code No. 396A-I, and Code No. 397, Grand Lodge by-laws, and the ancient Masonic regulations, subject to the regulations of the Grand Lodge and the by-laws of this lodge, shall be chairman of all committees, determine the order of business and work, and regulate debate and the conduct of members and visitors in the lodge. He shall have the custody of the charter of this lodge. He shall make the work and lectures used conform to the standard adopted by the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the Wardens to assist the Master in the discharge of the duties of his office and to perform such other acts as Masonic usage has assigned to their respective stations.

In the absence of the Master and both Wardens the lodge shall not be opened for any purpose except by the Most Worshipful Grand Master or his special proxy appointed in writing.

SEC. 3. The Treasurer shall have charge of the money and other fiscal property of the lodge, shall keep regular and accurate accounts of all lodge moneys received by him, shall pay them out only by order of the lodge on warrants signed by the Master, attested by the Secretary with the seal of the lodge, shall invest all surplus funds in such securities as the lodge may direct, shall at all times hold the accounts, vouchers, funds and securities subject to the inspection of the Master, or authorized committees, and shall make a detailed report of the receipts and expenditures at each annual meeting, or oftener, if required by the lodge or the Master.

SEC. 4. In addition to the current funds of the lodge, the Treasurer shall be ex-officio the custodian of all bonds, mortgages, certificates of stock, notes, abstracts, insurance policies, tax receipts and other securities belonging to the lodge, and shall deposit the funds in such bank and shall keep the securities in such safe depository in the City of Chicago, in the name of Avondale Lodge No. 921, A. F. & A. M., of Chicago, Ill., as he may select with the approval of the lodge.

The Treasurer shall be custodian of the key of said depository.

SEC. 5. The Treasurer, before entering upon the duties of his office, shall make to the lodge a good, sufficient bond for the faithful discharge of his duties, in such sum as the lodge may determine, such bond to be executed by such trust and security company as the lodge may select, the expense of furnishing such bond to be paid by the lodge.

SEC. 6. The Secretary shall record all the proceedings and transactions of the lodge proper to be written, shall preserve in appropriate files all papers and documents relating to his office, shall conduct the correspondence of the lodge under the direction of the Master, shall make the necessary returns to the Grand Lodge, shall keep all accounts pertaining to his office, shall receive all moneys paid into the lodge, record the items and amounts in the minutes of each meeting, and pay such moneys over to the Treasurer, without delay, taking his receipt therefor; shall endorse every warrant drawn on the Treasurer that the same was drawn by the proper vote of the lodge and the date of such action, shall keep a separate account with each member of the lodge, shall record in the minutes the names of all members and visitors at each stated meeting, shall keep a complete register of the members of the lodge, showing name, date of birth, occupation, date of initiation, passing and raising and affiliation, also withdrawal, death, expulsion or suspension; shall give to sister lodges the notices required by Masonic law, shall notify all members of committees of their appointment to such committees and of the matters referred to them, shall notify all petitioners of their election or rejec-

tion, shall notify each petitioner elected at what time to present himself for initiation or advancement, shall notify all members in arrears for dues, shall have in charge the seal of the lodge and shall affix said seal to all documents requiring such verification, shall issue all summonses and notices when directed, shall prepare previous to the annual election of officers a list of all the members qualified to vote, and a list of members in arrears for dues for one year or more; shall make a full detailed report of all the proceedings of the lodge during the preceding year and present the same at the annual meeting in December, and for the satisfactory discharge of his duties he shall receive such remuneration as the lodge from time to time may determine.

SEC. 7. It shall be the duty of the Master and Wardens, under the direction of the lodge, to supervise the financial and other business transactions of the lodge, to examine all accounts, claims or demands of a financial character against the lodge, or by the lodge against any member thereof, or other person, before any final action be taken thereon; to examine the accounts of the Treasurer and Secretary annually or oftener if deemed necessary by the lodge or master; shall examine the annual reports of the Treasurer and Secretary, and at the annual meeting in December shall make a complete detailed report of the financial condition of the lodge and make such recommendations as may appear just and proper.

SEC. 8. The Tyler shall serve all summonses and notices and perform such other duties as may be required of him by the Master, shall have charge of the lodge furniture and clothing under the direction of the Master and shall see that they are always in proper order for the transaction of business and the comfort of the brethren, shall preserve strict order and decorum in his department while the lodge is in session, and shall receive such compensation for his services as the lodge from time to time may determine.

SEC. 9. The other officers whose duties are not herein specified shall perform such duties as Masonic usage has assigned to their respective offices, under the direction of the Master.

## ARTICLE V

### COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. The Master shall, at the time of the annual installation of officers, appoint a committee on grievances to consist of three members of this lodge, whose duty it shall be to inquire into any alleged unmasonic conduct on the part of any member of the lodge or any difficulties that may arise between members, and reconcile the same if within their power; if not, and the same be, in the opinion of the committee, of sufficiently grave character to warrant such action, they shall report thereon to the lodge, when such action may be taken as the case may require, and it shall be the duty of every member of this lodge to report to said committee all unmasonic conduct that may come to his knowledge.

SEC. 2. The Master shall, at the time of the annual installation of officers and quarterly thereafter, appoint a committee on instruction, whose duty it shall be to impart such necessary instruction to candidates as may render them eligible for advancement.

SEC. 3. The Master shall appoint brethren to act as a "committee on the sick," whose duty it shall be to call upon any member who is reported ill, and, with the sanction of the Master of the lodge, to take the necessary steps to provide watchers and afford the needed relief.

SEC. 4. The Master, Senior and Junior Wardens shall constitute a standing committee on relief, to whom all applications for assistance shall be referred, with power to act. They shall have the power to draw from the treasury for such relief any sum not to exceed $10 for any one case, reporting all such expenditures to the lodge at the next stated meeting, at which time such further sum may be granted as the case may demand and the lodge see fit to grant.

Read and note carefully

## ARTICLE VI

### MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. Candidates applying for the degrees in this lodge shall be men under the tongue of good report, believers in God, must possess the senses of a man, especially those of hearing, seeing and feeling, able to read and write, and possessed of no maim or defect that may render them incapable of complying literally to what the several degrees respectively require of them; must be not less than

21 years of age, and shall have resided in this state one year or more next preceding the date of the petition, and in the jurisdiction of this lodge not less than six months.

SEC. 2. Every petition for the degrees in this lodge shall be signed by the applicant with his full name; shall state his age, date of birth, occupation and place of residence; duration of residence in this state, and in the jurisdiction of this lodge; whether or not he has ever before petitioned any other lodge; shall be recommended by three members of this lodge who know him personally, and shall be accompanied by $10, which shall apply on the fee for the entered apprentice degree, which shall be returned to the petitioner without delay in case said petitioner shall be rejected.

SEC. 3. Every petition for membership shall be signed by the applicant with his full name, shall state his age, occupation and place of residence; shall state the name, number and location of the lodge of which he was last a member, the name of the lodge in which he was made a Master Mason, and the name of the Grand Lodge under which such lodge is or was working, and shall be accompanied by a demit or other satisfactory evidence that the petitioner has lawfully withdrawn from the lodge of which he was last a member, or has made application for a transfer of membership, as provided in Code No. 606, Grand Lodge by-laws, to the lodge; or if such membership has been lost he must submit proof of his good standing in the fraternity; shall be

signed by three members of this lodge, who vouch for him as a Master Mason; if the petitioner is elected, the documentary evidence shall be cancelled and filed among the records of the lodge. If petitioner is rejected, such documentary evidence shall be promptly returned to the brother.

SEC. 4. Every petition shall be referred to a committee of inquiry, composed of three members of this lodge, and it shall be the duty of each member of said committee to personally see and separately and diligently inquire into the mental, moral and physical qualifications of the applicant, and to verify as far as possible all statements made in his petition, and each member shall separately make private verbal report to the Master, who, previously to balloting thereon, shall read so much of the petition as gives the petitioner's name, age, occupation and residence, together with the names of the brethren who recommended him, and those who served on the investigating committee, and announce to the lodge the nature of the invstigating committee's report, and to what extent they were agreed. Such report, however, shall not be entered of record.

SEC. 5. Any candidate failing to attend for initiation within one year after his election, unless for good and sufficient reasons, of which the lodge or the Master shall be the judge, shall forfeit his election and must petition again before he can be initiated. This new petition shall be subjected to the same rules as govern original petitions, provided, the lodge may for good reasons credit the petitioner on

his new petition with the fees paid on the first.

SEC. 6. Any member desiring to terminate his membership in this lodge shall give notice to that effect in writing. Said notice shall lie over until the next stated meeting when, if there are no charges against him, and his dues are paid in full, a demit shall issue. Any member of this lodge desiring to transfer his membership to another lodge without first demitting from membership in this lodge must comply with the regulations of Code No. 606, Grand Lodge by-laws.

SEC. 7. It shall be the duty of each member receiving the degrees in this lodge to appear before the lodge for the purpose of examination as to his proficiency in the Master Mason's degree.

SEC. 8. No member shall be entitled to a vote upon any question before this lodge until he shall have signed the by-laws, and every member present shall vote upon every question unless excused by vote of the lodge.

SEC. 9. This lodge may, by a unanimous vote, which must be by ballot at a stated meeting, elect Master Masons, members in good standing of other lodges, honorary members of this lodge, and issue certificate therefor. Provided, that the name of such member shall have been presented at a previous stated meeting. Such election, however, shall not confer any of the privileges of regular membership, but shall be merely a token of fraternal regard.

## ARTICLE VII

### Balloting

Section 1. No ballot shall be taken upon a petition for degrees or for membership at any other than a stated meeting of this lodge, nor in a period of less than four weeks from the time such petition is referred to the committee, except by special dispensation of the Grand Master, nor shall any ballot be taken unless there be present and voting at least seven members of this lodge.

Sec. 2. Each petition for the degrees or for membership shall be acted upon separately, and every member of the lodge present shall vote, nor shall any member be excused from this duty, except by unanimous consent of the other members present, and the vote to elect to the degrees or to membership must be unanimous.

Sec. 3. The right of every member of a lodge to the secret ballot for the degrees or for membership is inherent and absolute, and the lawful and legitimate exercise of such rights shall not be questioned, and if any member shall be proven to have been actuated by unworthy motives in the exercise of this right, or shall willfully use the ballot to interrupt the legitimate labors or to mar the peace and harmony of the lodge, or shall expose the character of his own vote before or at the time of, or after casting it, or shall attempt to ascertain the character of the vote of any other member, he shall be liable to Masonic discipline.

Sec. 4. No ballot when in progress shall be suspended or postponed, nor shall

any ballot be reconsidered under any pretense whatever, except where one negative vote appears, as provided in Code No. 515, Grand Lodge by-laws, and after the result has once been announced it shall not be reconsidered.

SEC. 5. No debate shall be permitted in open lodge upon the merits or demerits of any candidate, at or before or subsequent to the time of balloting.

SEC. 6. The ballot having been taken, it shall be examined first by the Wardens and finally by the Master, when, if only one negative vote appears, he may order a second trial of the ballot, the result of which shall in all cases be final and conclusive, and shall then and there be so declared by the Master, the result only being made known.

SEC. 7. In no case shall any member or visitor impart any information as to the result of any ballot or ballots on a petition for degrees or for affiliation to any person not a Mason, under penalty of being subject to Masonic discipline by this lodge or of the lodge of which the offender shall be a member. This shall also apply to the discipline of any of the proceedings of the lodge.

## ARTICLE VIII

### CONFERRING DEGREES

SECTION 1. No candidate shall be advanced to the second or third degree in this lodge until he shall have passed a satisfactory examination in open lodge upon his Masonic proficiency, unless by special dispensation of the Grand Master.

SEC. 2. No candidate shall receive more than one degree on the same day,

nor shall either of the degrees be conferred upon more than one candidate at one and the same time. Nor shall any part of any degree other than the explanatory part of the Entered Apprentice degree, the second section of the Fellow Craft degree and the historical account in the Master Mason's degree and the charge in each degree, be given to more than one candidate at the same time. All other parts of the three degrees must be given in full to each and every candidate separately.

SEC. 3. This lodge shall not confer more than seven degrees in any one day.

## ARTICLE IX

### FEES AND DUES

SECTION 1. The fees for the degrees in this lodge shall be as follows:

1. For the degree of Entered Apprentice $40.00, $10.00 of which shall accompany the petition.

2. For the degree of Fellow Craft $30.00.

3. For the degree of Master Mason $30.00.

SEC. 2. The fee for affiliation shall be $10.00, which shall accompany the petition.

SEC. 3. Every member shall pay as lodge dues the sum of $6.00 annually, to be paid on or before the annual meeting of each year. All new members shall pay dues from the month of raising or admission to January 1 following.

SEC. 4 Any member whose dues are not paid or remitted on or before the annual meeting in December shall be notified by the Secretary in writing to pay the same on or before the first stated meeting in March following, which shall be considered the first notice, as required in Code 951, Grand Lodge by-laws, and any member who neglects or refuses to make answer to such notice, and whose dues are not paid or remitted at the first stated meeting in March, shall be notified to appear at the first stated meeting in April following, which shall be considered the second notice as required in Code 952, Grand Lodge by-laws, and if said dues are not paid or remitted at the first stated meeting in April, the lodge may at once proceed to discipline the delinquent member, as provided in Code Nos. 956 and 957, Grand Lodge by-laws; provided, that should such delinquency occur through sickness, misfortune or other good cause, the lodge may remit all or any part of said dues. In no case, however, can unaccrued dues be remitted.

SEC. 5. Any member suspended for non-payment of dues, upon payment, or remission of same, and upon his written application may, by consent of two-thirds of the members present at a stated meeting, be reinstated to membership in this lodge, or to good standing in the fraternity only, leaving him unaffiliated, as provided in Code 988, in which latter case he shall receive from the lodge, under its seal, and without fee, a certificate of such restoration, and that his membership WITHIN this lodge has terminated.

## ARTICLE X

### AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. Any resolution or edict of the Grand Lodge which has the effect to alter any part of these by-laws shall be deemed an amendment without any action of this lodge.

SEC. 2. Any portion or the whole of these by-laws may be amended or repealed or others substituted in their stead at the will of the lodge, providing the amendment shall be proposed in writing, read before the lodge and lie over not less than four weeks before a vote shall be taken thereon. Due notice of such meetings shall be issued to all resident members, and said notice shall recite the proposed amendment, and when a vote is taken the assent of two-thirds of the members present shall be necessary for the adoption of such amendment.